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SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA No. 32

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Negative

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NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL		DATE OF ACTION		DIRECTIONS TO RM/R

EXTERNAL - POLITICAL (BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL)

1. Khrushchev August 7 Speech. In response to President Kennedy's July 25 speech on US preparations to meet the Berlin crisis, Khrushchev addressed the Soviet people by radio and TV on August 7. Starting out with a discourse on how well things are developing for the Soviet Union, with special reference to the Titov multiple-orbit space flight and prospective good harvests in large parts of the USSR, Khrushchev clearly restated Soviet demands regarding Berlin: the Western powers will either join in signing a peace treaty or they will lose all their rights in Berlin arising from World War II. Khrushchev said Soviet failure to sign a peace treaty in 1961 would be regarded by the Western powers as a "strategic breakthrough" and would lead them to demand the liquidation of the "socialist system" in the GDR, revision of the Polish and Czech borders, and ultimately the liquidation of the "socialist system" throughout the bloc. Khrushchev said he would take whatever military measures might be necessary in support of the Soviet position, such as increased armaments, redeployment of troops, and the calling up of reserves, but that such measures were not necessary at present.

The press reported that immediately after listening to Khrushchev's speech, workers in Soviet defense plants in many parts of the Soviet Union held meetings at which resolutions were passed appealing to the Government to raise their work-days from 7 to 8 hours. The press also reported statements by Soviet workers concerning the superiority of Soviet military technology and the Soviet people's ability and determination to give a fitting rebuff to any country which seeks "to disturb their peaceful labor." This was complemented by massive exploitation of the Titov flight.

Soviet press reports of foreign reaction to the speech were in sharp contrast to this presentation of internal reaction and focused on the possibility for negotiations on Berlin. This note characterized most reported reactions from Western and Communist-bloc countries, but there were also some reports that "reactionary" papers and columnists in the US, France, and the FRG, had presented Khrushchev's speech as a "threat" to the West.

Reports from diplomatic sources indicated that Khrushchev took an invariably uncompromising position on Berlin in conversations with Westerners, B1
such as [redacted]

2. CONGO. A TASS despatch from Stanleyville of August 8 for the first time gave Soviet readers some idea of the results of the recent meeting of the Congolese Parliament. Citing a report contained in a local Stanleyville journal, the TASS despatch noted that the Congolese Parliament had recognized the new coalition government as the direct successor of the lawful government of Patrice Lumumba which "until recently" was headed by Antoine Gizenga. (END CONFIDENTIAL.)

3. Soviet Note on Nuclear Testing. In a note dated August 9, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reaffirmed the Soviet position that the

Article VII of Norwegian treaty.

Paragraph 5 -

Same as paragraph 1 of Article IX in Italian draft. [Paragraph 1 of Article IX of Italian draft.]

Paragraph 6 -

Same as paragraph 2 of Article IX of Italian draft. [Paragraph 2 of Article IX of Italian draft.]

"conclusion of a treaty on general and complete disarmament would fully remove those obstacles which the Western powers have placed in the path of the conclusion of an agreement on the cessation of nuclear weapons tests." The note, which responded to the US note of July 15, lacked anything new in the way of substance and appeared to be directed toward propaganda ends. Pravda published the full text of the Soviet note in its issue of August 11. The text of the US note of July 15 was not published.

4. US Decision on Common Market. In the only Soviet press comment to date on the British decision to negotiate on membership in the Common Market, the weekly Novoye Vremya claimed that there is little chance the "Inner Six" would accept British conditions and reservation and thereby agree to British membership. The journal contended that the British are faced with strong opposition within the Commonwealth, and within Britain, as well as from Common Market members. The US, Novoye Vremya claimed, is pressuring the British to join the EEC group in order to bolster NATO; the Germans are extorting additional British assistance for their rearmament program, and the French are trying to win British support for their program to develop nuclear weapons. The Soviet journal leaves the impression that, as a result of these disparate pressures, Britain is unlikely to become a member of the Common Market.

5. Latin-America. Commenting on the Punta del Este Conference, the Soviet press claimed it is an extension of efforts by American monopolies to stem the influence of the Cuban revolution. The article ridiculed the "Alliance for Progress" as promising in the form of US aid only a fraction of the amount annually extorted by the US from South America. Pravda insisted "Kennedy's main objective" is to garner support for armed intervention against Cuba, and warned that such schemes are doomed to failure.

Soviet press coverage of the Georgadze good-will mission has remained light. Only brief reports appeared on the Mexican stage of the visit, noting that Georgadze was received by President Mateos and that the delegation had visited State-owned factories in Sagun. The delegation's visit in Ecuador received slightly more attention, including reports of Vice President Arosamena's statement that he hoped Soviet-Ecuadoran diplomatic relations would soon be established. Georgadze's call on President Velasco was also reported in Pravda. The article noted that Georgadze extended an invitation to Velasco to visit the Soviet Union, but Velasco's reported response appeared to amount to little more than platitudes about developing trade and cultural relations.

6. Laos. The Soviet press, which in recent weeks has ignored the Geneva Conference on Laos and developments in Laos itself, reported a recent press conference by Souvanna Phouma in Phnom Penh at which he reportedly criticized the "Savannakhet group" for intriguing against implementation of the Zurich Agreement of the 3 Princes, indicated he would go to Xieng Khuang to see Souvanuvong, and expressed hope that a coalition government, headed by himself, would be formed in the nearest future.

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7. Visitors. Brazilian Vice President Goulart stopped in Moscow August 8 en route to Peiping.

Ghanaian Minister of Defense Dixon was received by Marshal Grechko on August 5. Dixon arrived in Moscow early in July as part of Nkrumah's party and, according to the Ghanaian Embassy, has remained in Moscow since that time.

Cyprus. A delegation of Cypriote parliamentarians which has been touring the Soviet Union was received by Brezhnev on August 4.

Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mokkadem arrived in Moscow August 2 to place Tunisia's case on Bizerte before Soviet leaders.

INTERNAL - POLITICAL

8. Draft of New CPSU Statute (By-Laws). The draft CPSU Statute (By-Laws) was published on August 5, fifteen days ahead of the August 20 publication date which had been set at the June 19 plenum of the CPSU-CC. An advance publication date may have been decided upon to permit time for adequate "discussion" before the Statute is approved by various republican congresses. The first of these is scheduled for September 6 (Azerbaidzhan).

The new By-Laws, which will replace the amended By-Laws approved in 1956 at the 20th Congress, contained nothing sensational or unexpected. One new formulation calls for the elimination of "fractional groups disturbing Party unity," instead of the earlier By-Laws condemnation of "anti-Party elements." A new article is added describing the evil influence of the "cult of personality" on "internal Party democracy."

The changing social structure of the Soviet Union is reflected in many ways in the draft Statute and conditions for membership are greatly simplified. Any Soviet citizen accepting the Party Program and By-Laws may become a member. The old By-Laws emphasized that a prospective member had to be a member of the working class, a working peasant, a working intellectual, or at least one who "did not exploit the labor of others." This kind of language is conspicuous by its absence in the new draft and probably was considered redundant in a country where all but "parasites" are "workers."

In complete harmony with other internal Soviet propaganda lines, the Statute attempts to give the impression that Party democracy and the rights of individual members will be strengthened. Formulations in the new Statute permit criticism of any Party member "irrespective of the position he holds." Encouragement of free discussion and expression of opinion "as long as the organization concerned has not adopted a decision" reinforces a picture of individual freedom within the Party. The draft Statute suggests expulsion for "those who commit the offence of suppressing criticism or victimize anyone for criticising."

The Statute's provision on systematic renewal of the CC and other Party organs are identical with those contained in the draft Party Program (WEEKA No. 31 August 4, 1961). The Code of Conduct for Communists is also identical with that contained in the draft Party Program.

The draft omits a statement found in Article 60 of the old By-Laws to the effect that the CC of the Komsomol is subordinate to the CPSU-CC. However, the draft, while stressing the "wide initiative" to be enjoyed by the Komsomol, repeats statement to the effect that that body works under the guidance of the CPSU and, at all republical levels and below, is "controlled by the appropriate... Party organization."

Party conferences of city and raion organizations are now to be scheduled not less frequently than every two years. Formerly, they were held annually except for those of large metropolitan organizations, which were held every two years. Bureaus of primary organs are to be elected annually at Party conferences.

The new Statute provides for slightly lower dues for all income groups except those earning more than 300 rubles per month. Initiation fees remain unchanged.

The draft By-Laws contain no indication whether the "systematic review" procedure will be applied retroactively to various Party organs or whether its application will be regulated beginning with the XXII Congress. At least for the coming Congress, however, this is an academic point of little practical importance. The large number of dismissals which have taken place since the last CC was elected at the 20th Party Congress (February 1956) will insure that the one-quarter "renewal" quota is fully met (see item 9 below).

9. Rising Number of CC Figures Likely Not to be Reelected at XXII Party Congress. Two more oblast first secretaries were replaced during the week. For Vladimir Oblast, First Secretary M. M. Mayorov was replaced by M. A. Ponomarev (sometime before August 10) and, in Ulyanovsk Oblast, First Secretary I. D. Yakovlev was replaced by A. A. Skochilov on August 7. Yakovlev is a member of the CC-CPSU. These two shifts raise the total number of RSFSR oblasts whose Party first secretaries have been transferred in the last nine months to nearly 30.

A proposed institutional change contained in the draft Party Program (WEEKA No. 31, August 4, 1961) calls for the "renewal" of one-fourth of the CC at each election. It seems likely that the rapid personnel turnover illustrated above will, in itself, supply most of the "systematic renewal" called for. The CC elected at the XX Congress (February, 1956) contained 255 members and candidate members. Presumably at least one-fourth of these, or about 65, are scheduled to be replaced at the XXII Congress in October, 1961, if the Party puts the "renewal" procedure into effect at that time. This is not a high figure in view of natural attrition. Fourteen CC members and candidate members are known to have died and six have been excluded since 1956. Oblast secretaries who are members or candidate members of the CC comprise a group accounting for less than 15% of total CC membership. Yet it appears that, among this small fraction of the CC, seventeen

members and candidate members have come under a cloud within the last nine months alone. Together with the dead and excluded, therefore, a total of 37 CC members and candidates are not likely to be reelected. Clearly, the remaining 28 who must be replaced to complete the "renewal" process in the CC will easily be found. Therefore, the "renewal" procedure will scarcely be needed during the coming Congress. Normal attrition will carry the total of CC figures "renewed" by the Congress well above the minimum one-quarter of CC membership.

10. More on the Comeback of T. D. Lysenko. On August 8, at a conference of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Science (Vaskhnil), T. D. Lysenko was re-elected to the presidency (Pravda, August 9, 1961). He had held this position once before, from 1938 to April, 1956. In 1956, he asked to be relieved of the presidency after his prestige had suffered considerably as a result of attacks on his genetics theories. Under Stalin, in 1948, he had used his Vaskhnil platform to cow critics by stating that his theories were accepted by the Party, and, in effect, daring critics to oppose party policy. (Airgram No. A-108, August 11, 1961).

At the same August 8 meeting, which also announced the release of outgoing President P. P. Lobanov (a candidate member of the CC-CPSU), First Vice-President D. D. Brezhnev (also a CC member) was released "at his own request".

Brezhnev (not to be confused with L. I. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet) and Lobanov probably are not in difficulty. Lobanov, for example, was appointed Gosplan Deputy Chairman on March 14. Although Brezhnev's new job is not known, all other released officers of the Vaskhnil have received good jobs (WEEKA No. 5, Feb. 3, 1961). These changes very nearly complete a full sweep of the five top officers of the academy. If nothing else, this facilitates plans Lysenko may have to put in his own staff in order to fulfill his objective of "developing theory in close connection with practice" (Sovetskaya Rossiya, August 9, 1961). The only officer still on the staff of Vaskhnil who was there in December, 1960, is Vice-President K. I. Skryabin, who is 83 years old.

11. CC-CPSU Supervision of the Druzhini. An identification of an apparatchik made during the week suggests the existence in the administrative area of the CC-CPSU of a sector that supervises public voluntary organs like the druzhini, the organization of unpaid voluntary policement. The apparatchik V. Ye. Krutskikh, was identified at a Moscow Oblast awards rally for druzhinniki as "Chief of a Sector of the CPSU-CC Section on Administrative and Trade-Finance Organs for the RSFSR." (Despatch No. 120, August 9, 1961).

FOR THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AD INTERIM:

R. T. Davies
First Secretary of Embassy

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